GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4054
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2017
Shale Oil and Gas Projects
Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are on-going shale oil and gas exploration projects in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with number of such projects completed so far, block-wise;
(c) the funds allocated and disbursed for these projects during the last three years and the current year and the achievements therefrom; and
(d) the details of guidelines laid down by the Government to evaluate the environmental impact of such explorations?

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Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) & (b): In order to exploit shale gas & Oil in the country, Government of India on 14th October, 2013 announced the Policy Guidelines for Exploration and Exploitation of Shale Gas and Oil by National Oil Companies (ONGC and Oil India Limited (OIL)) in their onland Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) / Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) areas awarded under the nomination regimes.
In pursuance of this Policy, under the first phase of assessment ONGC has identified and initiated shale gas and oil exploration activities in 50 PEL/PML areas; and OIL has identified and initiated shale gas exploration activities in 6 PEL/PML areas.
ONGC has drilled total 21 wells in 18 blocks for Shale gas and oil. Block wise details of wells drilled by ONGC is at Annexure. OIL has completed G&G studies and Geochemical analysis in its identified areas.
(c): ONGC/OIL are carrying out shale gas exploration from their funds. During last three years 2013-16, and current years 2016-17, ONGC and OIL have made an expenditure of Rs.199.47 crore on shale gas exploration. All blocks are is still under exploration stage.
(d): The exploration & production of non-conventional hydrocarbon has to comply with the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act-1980, Environment (Protection) Act-1986 and such other guidelines/rules stipulated by Ministry of Environment & Forest on the lines similar to the exploration & production of conventional hydrocarbons.
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